

The Official Newsletter of the Kansas City DX Club

# ***KC DX NEWS***

**AB0X-EDITOR**

KCDXC Website: <http://www.kcdxclub.com/>

**JANUARY 2023**

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**NEXT KCDXC MEETING: JAN. 30** -The next KCDXC meeting will be a LIVE meeting at the JOCO Library, 9875 W. 87th St., Overland Park KS, 66212.Start: 6:30pm. Zoom available also.

**NEW MONTHLY FEATURE: SHACK PICTURES!** This month, K0IZ is featured. Below, K0IZ's home station, full of classic radios, is shown! See page 3 for John's remote radios. Send in your shack pics to the Editor: [ab0x@kc.rr.com](mailto:ab0x@kc.rr.com).



## KCDXC DXCC HONOR ROLL

Call	Mixed	CW	Phone	DIGI	IOTA	160	6 M	DX Challenge
AB0X	357	353	349	236		226	46	2382
N0RB	353	347	351				23	2269
K0CA	350	349	350	331	318	112		2631
N0CWR	350	350	350	326	985	207	93	2933
NX0I	350	349	347	271		211	6	2522
K3PA	351	348	345	323		188	36	2738
K0HQP	349	333	347			33		1352
AC0A	348	321	348	24	882		15	2288
K0VXU	348	335	331	265	439	143	2	2295
KS0DX	347	324	337	225	360	107		2516
K4SV	346	340	344	337		301	87	2852
K0GY	344	340	344	290			5	2295
KB0X	336							
K0AP	334	331	325	295		47	8	2353
W0QQ	334	248	332	234	151	115	38	1937
K4SX	331	280	320	187		52	82	1773
KE5BR	335	177	297	79				742
K0THN	334	322	288	193	243	1		1929
WA0WOF	331							
W0MB	327	252	325	279		45		1849
K0XM	326	292	275	225		113	24	1858
AA0MZ	312	290	292	220	532	44	20	1296
AC0C	310	306	267	243	160	128	3	1852
K0IZ	300		300					
NS0D	263	219	142	130		3	2	
AI60	258	230	200	171		20	10	992
AD0K	257	242	85	85	196	35	4	1329
W0XE	248	216	193	14				833
N0EG	233	198	164	113		25	11	751
W0DR	229	30	174	70		10	7	622
N9GB	203							
KS0AA	172	75	84	154		3		507
W0ZAP	140	37	75	110		18	2	382
W0HL	96	7	50	78		5	7	231
WD0SRI	63	17	56			1	1	138

Red indicates member is at the top of the DXCC Honor Roll in that respective class. Totals are with deletions. NOTE: When changes of DXCC totals are sent in to me, they are immediately updated in the next month here in the newsletter. Send to [ab0x@kc.rr.com](mailto:ab0x@kc.rr.com) . Please only one update a month.

## KØIZ'S REMOTE STATION:



## The Presidents Corner January 2023 Chuck KØXM

Hello members!!!

Well, 2022 is gone, just a fractured memory at this point. And I want to state thank you for ALL the support you have given me in my 1st of serving as your president. Let's hope 2023 is even better.

But, 1st the meeting info. This month will be an in-person and Zoom meeting also on January 30th. I am hoping we can discuss Dayton/ Xenia and the CW Contest, and review the past year. We have a lot to prepare for, and not just upcoming DX-peditions.

The annual Christmas party was on December 16th at RC's in Martin City again. The turn out was great (About 30 of us). We presented Russ KØVXU a commemorative plaque for his work in holding the club together during the pandemic. I have seen comments on the web about a lot of clubs which just plain shut down, or folded. We were fortunate that this did not happen and Russ was the driving force behind that, so I for one thank him.

Also, we should have the results of the NØSS and WØAR contests soon. Let's hope you did well. At this time only THREE logs have been submitted for BOTH contests. So, looks like we may need to discuss the future of those contests also.

For those of you who do not know, committee members are: Awards and Contesting Committee- KØBRO, ABØX, and KA3NAM. DX-pedition Selection Committee - KE5BR, AI6O and KA3NAM. Joe is fortunate to wear 2 hats. And for that I thank him.

The club has taken over the Zoom room so it is locked in for this year. Also, going to badger again- DUES, DUES, DUES!!! Please remember your dues.

DX wise, we are off to a GREAT start, and thanks to FT8WW a great wrap up of

2022. Thierry has done a great job and as of this writing he has 15.5k QSO's in the log. A LOT of us have gotten him. For a single op he is handling ATNO (All Time New One) to many, many hams. Myself included. I have been fortunate to get him on CW and digital. But it is AMAZING how rough of a start he had. And not from his end. SO many ops on FT8 were calling blind- that's the only reason I can figure out, and they were transmitting when HE was transmitting, which makes a great case of THEY COULD NOT HEAR HIM!!! Now his reason for heavy FT8 operation may be to ATNO as many as he could, and almost 2 weeks into a 3-week operation it may have paid off. The pileups seem to be thinner, which means he is in a lot of logs.

I am going to use the propagation and operator (not the DX-pedition ops) as a judge of how the pileups should be for 3Y0J Bouvet. That one is scheduled to appear at the end of the month, hopefully with a safe voyage and landing by the crew.

I have a few programs in mind for 2023, so hang in there, we will try and make this year as entertaining as possible.

Until next month. CUL

73 es Good DX  
Chuck KØXM (ex- NØBIW)

**November 21, 2022**



## **Kansas City DX Club Meeting Minutes**

The November 2022 meeting of the Kansas City DX Club was called to order early by President Chuck Kraly, KØXM at 6:29pm CDT (November 21, 2329UTC). The meeting was conducted in the Johnson County Library Main Branch Carmack Room and on Zoom.

### **Agenda**

1. Introductions
2. Upcoming DXpeditions and Contests
3. Dues
4. Christmas Party
5. DXPedition donations
6. Updating Bylaws (add new committees and webmaster position)
7. Comments

Chuck Kraly, KØXM, reported that F6CUK reports that there have been some modifications to the times that the Crozet DXpedition can operate and will have reduced operating hours during their Dec. 20 2022 to Jan 26 2023 operation

### **Introductions**

We each introduced ourselves, first those on Zoom, then those in person. Most are working DX here and there. We are eagerly awaiting the upcoming DXpeditions

### **Contests**

ARRL 160 Meter Contest  
ARRL 10 Meter Contest  
Stew Perry Topband Challenge  
and more

As usual, see the WA7BNM online calendar

#### DXpeditions

Chuck, K0XM again provided information from the DX World website for upcoming DXpeditions. Looks like several good ones are coming up this month again.

3D2, T88, T09W, H44, S21, FT8, VK9M, TR8 were highlighted. Bouvet is almost here.

This information will be provided on groups.io. Chuck also uses the NG3K Announced DX Operations website for information. This information is also available on the <https://kcdxclub.org/dxpeditions> website.

Dues Check the Roster on the club website to see if you are current on your dues. If not it is past time to pay them and 2023 dues will be due soon.  
<https://kcdxclub.org/roster>

#### Christmas Party

There is no December meeting as it is replaced with the club banquet to be held on Dec. 16 at R.C.'s at 6pm. Report your intention to attend on groups.io.

Bylaws There was a brief discussion about providing for additional committees and the webmaster position in the Bylaws.

#### Comments

Send club contest results for 2022 to K0XM after the first of the year.

It was mentioned the Bill, K0VBU will be setting up the CW pileup contest equipment for a dry run after the first of the year.

We spent several minutes discussing hints on how to operate in a contest. This was a good session.

No mention of the first meeting of 2023 but save the date for January 30, 2023, the last Monday of January.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39pm.

Charlie Hett, K0THN, KCDX Club Secretary.

**SEND IN YOUR 2023 KCDXC DUES TO W0ZAP USING PAYPAL AT**  
**<https://kcdxclub.org/> .**



## KCDXC TRIVIA QUIZ

Can you name the KCDXC member who had to put ferrite chokes on his Christmas Lights???

Remember: Ferrite is my friend!

First one who submits correct answer gets a jar of B-J Catfish bait.

Send answer to Editor: [ab0x@kc.rr.com](mailto:ab0x@kc.rr.com) or Asst. Editor [skeeter@redneck.com](mailto:skeeter@redneck.com)

## WHAT'S ALL THAT NOISE ABOUT

BY KY00

Hi again,

I hope the contests were fun for you since the last newsletter.

First, a correction.

In last month's column, I said there are "three" relays in the sequencing system. There are only two needed—one to switch the antenna from transmit to receive, and the other to switch the preamp from the receiver to the fifty-ohm load.

Now to our subject for this month.

I've mentioned that everything around us produces noise. We measure noise two ways—DB and noise temperature.

DB is a scale we're all familiar with. Six DB is one S unit, or four times the value when the guy switched antennas during the comparison. It's the same thing with noise in DB. With receiver noise, which is what we want to get as low as possible in our receiver circuit design, we are dealing with values BELOW one microwatt. At two meters and seventy centimeters, we deal with different values. Generally, it's about -120 DB for a weak signal, and -150 DB off the moon.

Now, the other scale we use is "noise temperature".

When I said earlier that everything produces noise, I was saying anything on the earth's surface has a temperature, because it's in an environment whose temperature is above absolute zero Kelvin. All Kelvin degrees, are Celsius degrees with the zero temperature at absolute zero. The equivalent Fahrenheit scale is the Roendgen scale, again, with it zero point at absolute zero.

When working with receivers, we want to obtain as low a noise temperature or noise figure, as it's called in DB, as possible.

There are several ways to lower receiver noise figure besides installing a pre-amp. One is to place the receiver in space. As we saw happen with the James Webb infrared telescope, as the telescope cooled, its performance improved. This

is also true with our VHF receivers. If we put a satellite in geostationary orbit, its radio equipment cools off and the receivers see much weaker signals because it's in a much cooler environment. This also lowers the noise figure of the preamps and antennas, which also contribute to better overall system performance.

All right, Craig, there's too much month at the end of the money for that kind of tomfoolery!

That's right. But we CAN do things in the three hundred-degree Kelvin environment we live in.

First, when operating our fixed stations, we can do what NASA does—get our antennas, preamps, or transverters as high as safely possible. This gives us a chance to get away from ground noise. Remember—everything makes noise, and we want to get away from noise of any kind.

If you operate from a portable location, you can work as many stations as fixed stations, because you can use short, low-loss thinner types of coax which allows more RF to travel both ways down the cable. Your preamp is closer to the antenna, and you experience much less loss. Here, though, you don't get away from ground noise. You folks living in apartments may want to try this approach.

Next, we want the best feed line we can afford to overcome the losses produced when we make long runs .

Another way to lower noise is to use hi-quality components in our equipment. In the case of preamps, field effect transistors and IC's are substituted for J-fet and standard FET preamps. Even in power amps with added preamps, GAS-FET components are installed. Watch the relays in these, as they can become problematic because of their quality. Use high-quality, low-noise relays in your sequencing systems, as their losses add to the problem. Manufacturers are now putting low-noise amplifiers in receiver front ends to improve performance.

Antenna matching can also lower noise. The new loop-fed arrays on VHF antennas have been found to quiet them down and bring performance up, so that smaller antennas pack a much bigger wallop. Stacking these antennas has provided great EME performance in small packages using the digital modulation modes.

Like on HF, the bigger and better the antenna system at a home station, the easier it is to rotate away from noise sources.

On the hearing side, using high-quality noise reduction in the shack can make a difference. The MFJ-784b, and the Timewave products can add to the ability of a station to pull out CW and SSB signals. These are audio processors, but they work well. I have found that IF DSP seems to be lacking quality in the Kenwood radios, but the Icomm and Yaesu radios seem to do well. I have been told that the FLEX IF DSP and automatic gain control threshold systems are phenomenal.

I also constantly work to get maximum performance to my ears by constantly working with the filters and RF gain to provide the best environment for hearing weak

VHF signals, usually without the handicap of the AGC. This was covered in an earlier session.

Don't forget to use headphones or high-quality external speakers. Poor audio reproduction by your receiver makes the signal you're trying to snag just another source of noise. So, use the best audio reproduction you can buy. I use my stereo amplifier because it's quieter than the one in the radios.

We do have one thing in our favor. As we go up in frequency, general background noise goes down. Between two meters and seventy centimeters we see a marked noise decrease. At seventy centimeters, preamps can be used quite well without bringing in this noise. This gives our DSP circuits help, allowing them to eliminate less noise.

Look for any noise sources you can eliminate—wall cubes, power line noise, light dimmers, touch lamps, old LED bulbs, old computers, house-hold appliances, etc. Yes, these can interfere with your operation at VHF frequencies.

So, to summarize, lower noise wherever, whenever and however you can.-KY00

## **W0AR AND N0SS IMPROVEMENTS & MODS- BY AWARDS COMMITTEE**

The KCDXC Awards Committee(KA3PUM, K0BRO and AB0X) is always looking and listening for ways we can improve and encourage more participation in our annual contests. So, KCDXC members: What single thing would you do to improve the W0AR or N0SS yearly contests that would encourage more participation and friendly competition???

Send your ideas to Joe, KA3NAM([joe@ka3nam.com](mailto:joe@ka3nam.com)) , Ron, K0BRO([woodrr@att.net](mailto:woodrr@att.net)) or Mike, AB0X([ab0x@kc.rr.com](mailto:ab0x@kc.rr.com)).

## **DX NEWS & VIEWS**

**BY AB0X**

### **CROZET DXPEDITION**

The recent FT8WW DXpedition to super rare, Crozet Island, I believe gave us a vision of what future Dxpeditions will probably look like for the DX World. With the bulk of the operation being on FT8, it seems if you didn't speak FT8 your chances of snagging them quickly were very limited. A few local boys happened to catch them on CW but the majority of KCDXC members didn't work them in that mode. SSB contacts for our area of the world, not just KCDXCers, were even fewer! However, several KCDXC members were able to work Crozet for an ATNO. Congrats, to those members.



Remember, longevity is the key to the top of the DXCC Honor Roll! Big amps and tall towers sure help, but being there when the rare ones come on is the key.

Of course, it is always great to have a rare location on the air. We are lucky to



have Crozet and Bouvet up and on the air for the first time in many years!

#### **DX NEWS:**

##### **3Y0J BOUVET ISLAND DXPEDITION NEWS**

By the time you read this the 3Y0J DXpedition should be on the boat steaming toward Bouvet.

You can view the complete update at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3093983840726129>

Looks like a lot of DXers are going to get another ATN0 very soon in their logbook! Bouvet should be on multiple bands and modes at the same time, once they get set up!



Better start warming up your amps now!

#### **W0AR & N0SS RULES- An Old Timer's Advice:**

Below are the rules for the W0AR and N0SS. Remember, these contests are available to all paid up members of the club. Even though you may not think you can win the W0AR or N0SS, it is an opportunity to sharpen your operating skills so that you can be ready for new ones when they do come on, like Crozet and Bouvet.

Lee, W0AR, explained the above reasoning to me many years ago when I asked him why I should compete against him with my meager TH3 at 30' at the time. Lee had a 4 element quad and a HB Kilowatt amp at the time. Although I was a rookie in many ways I had enough sense to listen. I began competing in the W0AR (It was called the W0AAA, then, after another founding father of the KCDXC), with the goal of improving my skills! Lee explained, "You are in a contest against yourself! Each year, you should get better, have higher scores and refine your skills."

The same advice applies to the N0SS, as well. You should compete against yourself!

So, I hope more of you members will consider this sage advice from the Old Master(W0AR) and enter the contests this year!

#### **W0AR DX CONTEST:**

Honoring the memory of Lee Bergren, W0AR, one of the most well-known and respected DXers of all time, and a founding member of the Kansas City DX Club.

Each Year's Challenge Ends at 23:59 UTC December 31

Entries due no later than 15 days after the close of each Challenge. Be sure to get yours in by the deadline!

Don, W0XE, has provided an excellent record-keeping spreadsheet. It's great! Ask any Awards Committee member for a copy of the W0XE logging program if you would like a copy to use. It works great!

W0AR-DX-Challenge-Single-Log-2019-Full-Version-500-LinesDownload

**Purpose:** To promote activity on the bands and to provide friendly competition among the KCDXC members, by working as many ARRL Countries (entities) and as many CQ Zones as possible within the time frame described below...

**Rules: KCDXC (WØAR) Challenge**

(1) Activity period: The KCDX Club (WØAR) Lee Bergren Memorial DX Challenge is a year-long activity, beginning each year at at 0000 UTC January 1, and ending at 2359 UTC December 31.

a) Eligibility: THIS CONTEST IS OPEN TO KCDX CLUB MEMBERS ONLY!

b) Membership Requirements: IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED A KCDX CLUB MEMBER, AND BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS YEAR'S CONTEST, YOUR DUES MUST BE PAID BY JUNE 1.

(2) Frequencies: Any authorized amateur frequency may be used. Contacts through repeaters, remote stations or satellites are not allowed for credit, nor are contacts with maritime or aeronautical mobile stations. All contacts must be made entirely over amateur radio frequencies—i.e., Echolink-type contacts or IRLP do not count.

(3) Modes: Any authorized amateur mode may be used. Five modes will be recognized in the DX Challenge—Mixed, CW, SSB, RTTY and Digital. All modes other than CW, SSB and RTTY will count as Digital. Submissions with all contacts utilizing a single mode will be recognized.

(4) Categories: All awards are for single operator only. There are five entry categories "QRP", "Low Power", "Unlimited", "Wires", and "Rookie." An operator in QRP/Lower Power Class must select QRP (5 watts or less) or 100 watts at the beginning of the WØAR DX Memorial DX Challenge and may not switch between entry modes during the year. Entering multiple categories is allowed, even encouraged. Separate logs must reflect each category. The use of spotting nets/methods such as a DX Cluster® is allowed for all categories:

a) QRP: All contacts must be made with a maximum output power of 5 watts, regardless of band or mode;

b) Low Power: Maximum of 100 watts output.

c) Unlimited/High Power: Up to the maximum legal limit. All power restrictions of specific contests, i.e. NA QSO Party limitation of 100W or specific bands, i.e. 30 & 60 Meter power restrictions must be observed.

d) WIRES: The only antennas allowed are simple dipoles and 1 wire vertical. A maximum of two wire dipoles and one vertical may be used. All antenna elements must be constructed of wire. All radiation must be accomplished via the wire elements. Example: a shunt fed tower is not a wire antenna, even though it consists of a wire element.

e) ROOKIE: Any entrant who is a first time WØAR CHALLENGE contestant will be considered a ROOKIE. ie. This is your first entry in the WØAR Contest.

f) All entries submitted for the WØAR DX Contest must have worked at least 100 countries to be considered for an award.

(5) Valid Contacts: A valid contact consists of a complete, correctly copied and legibly logged two way exchange between the contesting station and any other station. Proper logging requires including the time in UTC and the BAND of each contact. Only one call sign shall be utilized by the contesting station during the DX Challenge contest period.

(6) Scoring: Each ARRL country worked is worth one point. Each CQ zone worked is a multiplier of one. The total score is the sum countries worked, on any mode and any authorized band multiplied by the sum of CQ Zones. The multipliers are the CQ Zones. Each country and zone count only once. A single QSO may count for both a

country and a zone. For example if in the course of the year you work 238 countries and 35 zones, your score is 8330. If you work all 40 zones and 150 countries your score is 6000. The ARRL DX Countries List and the CQ Zone List constitute the official lists. The lists are available on the KCDX Club website.

(7) Submissions: Submissions must be made electronically, via e-mail to the Contest Committee. A Microsoft Excel® template into which contacts may be entered will be made available for download from the KCDX Club website. All scores must be received within 15 days of the close of each Challenge.

(7a) Partial Score Report: It is mandatory that each contestant submit his/her approximate country total at 90 day intervals in the contest. A 10% penalty will be assessed if contestant fails to report their approximate score by the required date.

(7b) Minimum Submissions: A minimum of two submissions per Category/Mode is necessary for an award.

(8) Verification: QSL Cards are not required. The operator is expected to claim contacts only from stations the operator has every reason to believe are legitimate. Scores will be adjusted by the KCDX Contest Committee for claimed contacts with pirates or any station not considered legitimate. Submissions may be penalized or voided in cases of fraud or poor sportsmanship. The decisions of the KCDX Awards & Contest Committee are final.

(9) Results: The final listing of official scores will be posted on the KCDX Contest website.

(10) Awards:

a) Certificates: Certificates will be issued to the top (3) three scores from each Category.

b) Plaques: The KCDXC Contest Committee will award plaques to the top scorer in each category. The top scorer overall will receive the "KCDX Club DXer Champion" Plaque.

(11) In all cases, the rulings of the KCDXC Contest Committee and the KCDXC Contest Committee Chairman are final.

## **NØSS - Tom Hammond Memorial CONTEST**

The KCDX Club Tom Hammond (NØSS) memorial Contest begins at 0000 UTC on January 1, and runs through 2359 UTC on December 31. The goal is to make as many contest based contacts and multipliers as possible.

These are the rules for the KCDXC (NØSS) Tom Hammond DX Contest:

Purpose: To promote contest activity on the bands and to provide friendly competition among the amateur radio community.

Rules: KCDXC (NØSS) Contest

(1) Activity period: The KCDX Club (NØSS) Tom Hammond Memorial Contest is a year-long activity, beginning at 0000 UTC January 1, and ending at 2359 UTC December 31.

(1a) Eligibility: This Contest is open to all Licensed Amateurs who are members of the

KCDX CLUB. To become a member visit [www.kcdxclub.org/join](http://www.kcdxclub.org/join)

(1b) Membership Requirements: To be considered a KCDX Club member dues must be paid by June 1st.

(2) Frequencies: Any authorized amateur frequency may be used. Contacts through repeaters, remote stations or satellites are not allowed for credit, nor are contacts with maritime or aeronautical mobile stations. All contacts must be made entirely over amateur radio frequencies—i.e., Echolink-type contacts or IRLP do not count.

(3) Modes: Three modes will be recognized in the NØSS CONTEST—CW, SSB, and Digital.

(4) Categories: All awards are for single operator. Entries must be made under your call from your home station. There are three categories of entry:

Hi-Power/Low Power/QRP:

High Power: High Power is defined as a maximum Power of 1500 watts.

Low Power: Low power is defined as a maximum output power of 100 watts.

QRP: QRP is defined as a maximum output power of 5 watts.

(5) Scoring:

This is a contest based competition. Any public contest (48 hours maximum) published in QST, CQ or WA7BNM contest calendar is eligible if the contest is held on weekends or nights. No mid-week, daytime only contests will be eligible for this competition. Retired ops would have a clear advantage if daytime Sprints are allowed.

Scoring is a simple addition of total scores from each contest the participant operates in.

Example:

ARRL DX SSB= 126,572 points

CQ WW CW= 329,128 points

CQ WW SSB= 101,260 points

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Total score= 556,960 points

NØSS score would sum of all points earned in eligible contests

(6) Submissions: Submissions must be made electronically, via e-mail. All scores must be received by January 15.

(7) Verification: QSL's are not required. The operator is expected to claim contacts only from stations the operator has every reason to believe are legitimate, and only to claim contacts in which an accurate two-way exchange was clearly accomplished. Decisions of the KCDX Awards and Contest Committee are final.

(8) Claimed Scores: Competitors are encouraged to submit claimed scores to the KCDX Contest website at 90 day intervals.

The individual category winner is required to submit his/her contest logs upon request.

(9) Results: The final listing of official scores will be posted on the KCDX Contest website.

(10) Awards: Certificates: Certificates may be issued to the winners from each ARRL Section. Where there is sufficient activity, additional certificates may be issued for other high scorers.

The KCDXC Awards and Contest Committee may issue award plaques to the top scorer in each category. Additional sponsors are welcome.

(11) In all cases, the rulings of the KCDXC Awards and Contest Committee and the KCDXC Awards Committee Chairman are final.

(12)Entry (Submission) deadline for the 2022 KCDX Club (NØSS) TOM HAMMOND, NØSS Contest is January 15.

SEND IN YOUR STATION PICS TO ABØX, [ab0x@kc.rr.com](mailto:ab0x@kc.rr.com) !!

**SEND IN YOUR 2023 CLUB DUES TO WØZAP!  
USE THE PAYPAL LINK ON THE KCDXC WEB  
PAGE: <https://kcdxclub.org/>**

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